

ARE THE PURSES LARGE ENOUGH?

No Decided Increase Likely to Be Seen Before the Fall Meetings.

Owners Contend That as Matters Stand They Cannot Make the Expenses of Their Stables.

PRESENT OUTLOOK FOR SUBURBAN.

Don de Oro Has Little to Fear in the Great American Stakes Unless from Some Two-Year-Old Not Yet Seen Out.

A natural result of the evident prosperity of the racing associations that have so far tried their luck in this vicinity is that owners, particularly those of the owner-trainer variety, are beginning to clamor for an increase in the amounts offered in purses.

On the other hand, the managers of racing associations have a record of loss during 1895 to point to, and virtually, if not actually, ask how they can be expected to take any chances after the uncomfortable experience they have been through. It goes without saying that there is right on both sides.

The owner of the poorer class is having a hard time to make ends meet just at present, and, indeed, unless he has exceptionally good luck, or is able to supplement his income from racing by effecting advantageous sales, is more than apt to fail in the attempt.

There is little prospect that owners will get much encouragement just at present, though by the end of the year, and figures on all the thousands and one odd-and-ends expenses that occur in connection with a stable—rent, wages, feed, veterinary, groom, blacksmith, groomer, butcher, saddler, etc.—it is readily seen that a man must win a great many purses to see his way out of the woods unless he succeeds in making the layers of heavy damages.

The owner argues that the racing associations made tremendous profits prior to 1895, and yet are trying to make the owner pay the price since times have become harder. In this respect the Western Horse Racing Association has set a splendid example, while the others have failed.

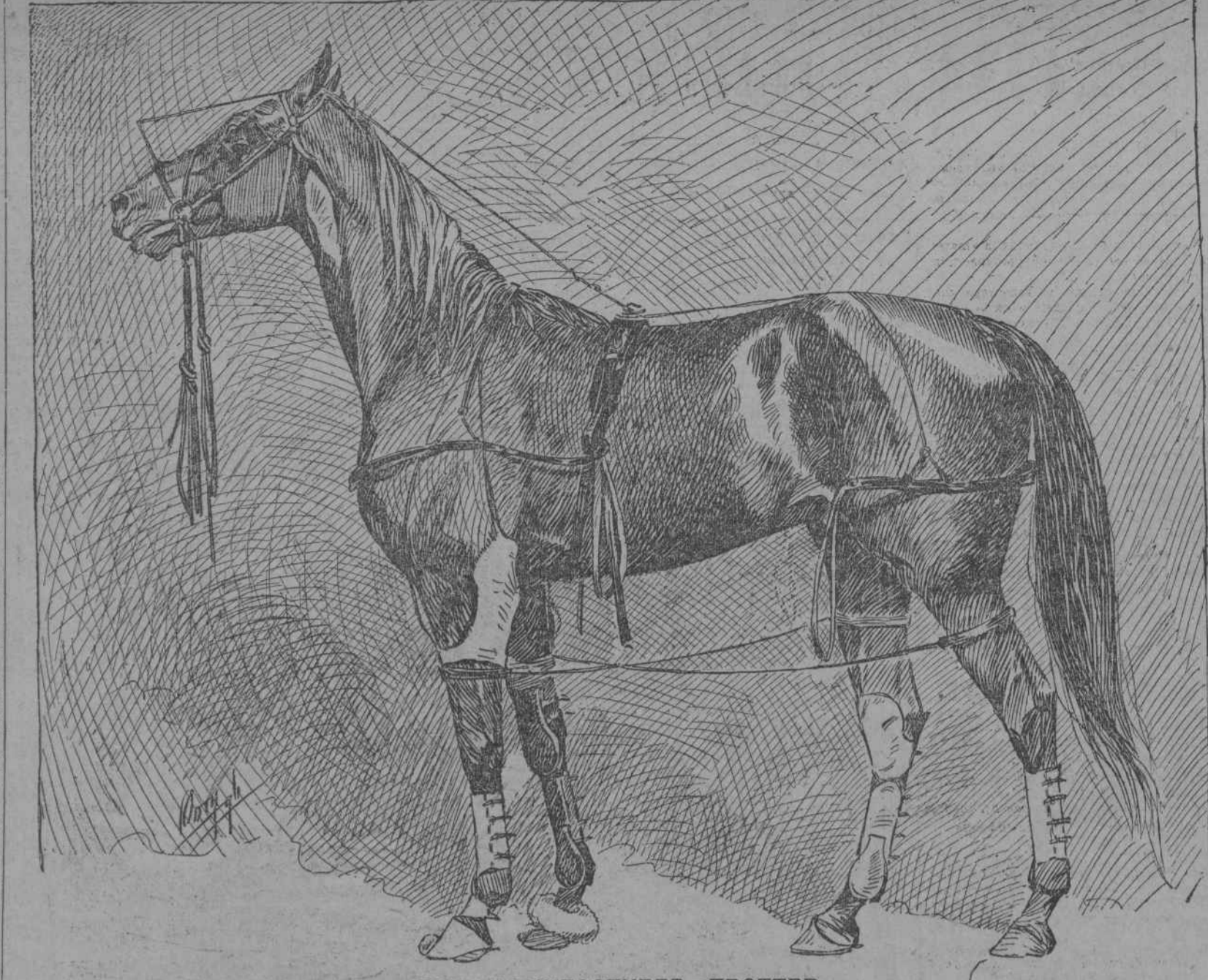
At the same time it would be equally unjust to brand the owners as greedy and grasping. And after all is said and done we could not have racing without owners. They furnish the sport, and so far as possible, their interests should be conserved.

From all present indications a small field will face the flag in the Suburban, but there is no chance of the race looking interesting. Every one will want to see how Henry of Navarre can handle his field with 120 pounds on his back, conceding Clifford four pounds and other horses varying amounts.

Don de Oro will probably be tired out when he starts for the Great American Stakes on Saturday. Among those he is liable to meet are Rhodessa, San Mateo, Sheppard, Arthur, and Rotterdam, and George Kessler and a number that have not been out yet, but are well thought of. There are no penalties or allowances, and the son of Rayon d'Or seems to hold everything absolutely safe that we have seen out so far.

Paris, June 7.—The Grand Steeple Chase de France opened today. The principal event of the day was the Grand Steeple Chase de France. The race was won by M. J. Nysco's Valois, Prince Krasnowski's Chienouze was second, and M. G. Leda's Times third. There were thirteen starters. The conditions for the Grand Steeple Chase de France of 120,000 francs and an object d'art, value 10,000 francs, are as follows: For three-year-olds, 200 francs; for four-year-olds, 100 francs; for five-year-olds, 50 francs; for six-year-olds, 25 francs; for seven-year-olds, 12 1/2 francs; for eight-year-olds, 6 1/4 francs; for nine-year-olds, 3 1/4 francs; for ten-year-olds, 1 1/4 francs; for eleven-year-olds, 7/8 franc; for twelve-year-olds, 1/2 franc; for thirteen-year-olds, 1/4 franc; for fourteen-year-olds, 1/8 franc; for fifteen-year-olds, 1/16 franc; for sixteen-year-olds, 1/32 franc; for seventeen-year-olds, 1/64 franc; for eighteen-year-olds, 1/128 franc; for nineteen-year-olds, 1/256 franc; for twenty-year-olds, 1/512 franc; for twenty-one-year-olds, 1/1024 franc; for twenty-two-year-olds, 1/2048 franc; for twenty-three-year-olds, 1/4096 franc; for twenty-four-year-olds, 1/8192 franc; for twenty-five-year-olds, 1/16384 franc; for twenty-six-year-olds, 1/32768 franc; for twenty-seven-year-olds, 1/65536 franc; 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THE MANUFACTURED TROTTER.

The old saw which runs—"The bird that can sing and wont sing, must be made to sing," has been quoted many a time in trotting circles, and it is on this line of reasoning that the inventive genius of the harness maker has contrived so many wonderful appliances to make the horse trot that is bred to trot and wont trot, and it may be truly said that to the same genius may be credited that expensive, unsightly and dangerous institution, the "manufactured trotter." The trainers who have made a success of that hazardous business do not take that sort of a trotter "down the line" in these days, and every year the feeling of antipathy for the gaiting hopple, the "derrick," the elbow boot and the spreader, with their kindred trappings, is becoming more general. The illustration shows a trotter of the manufactured brand, and is not an exaggeration of that type. When he trots, he is performing artificially, and when he "breaks" the chances are that he will fall down. Many serious accidents have occurred from the use of the hopple in races, and turf legislation, with a view to its banishment, has been discussed for several years.

STAKES OF THE WEEK.

Gravesend's Programme Promises Great Racing Among the Two and Three Year Olds.

The six days' racing at Gravesend will show some sport of a high order. To-day's card is a fair sample, expectations are sure to be realized, for in each of the six events the fields are well matched.

The material at call assures a continuance of the big fields that have ruled since the meeting opened. This applies not only to the over-night races, but also to the stakes. For owners are not inclined to let any opportunity of capturing a rich prize pass. The rule of nearly all seems to be, race while you can. The effect of this anxiety to win is bound to be good for the sport, for as long as the different associations are able to provide their patrons with attractive programmes the public will lend their support. When the divide down to practical walk-overs interest is sure to wane. Keep them up to the standard and a generous support is certain.

To-day's card includes two stakes, the May, for three-year-olds, and the Amazon, for two-year-old fillies. In the former, of course, the field will be a good one, but there is no doubt that it must be set, and, as the field is not likely to be large, it is not fair to ask jockeys and horses to face all kinds of different handicaps. So far as the Amazon is concerned, it is a matter of fact that the field will be a good one, but there is no doubt that it must be set, and, as the field is not likely to be large, it is not fair to ask jockeys and horses to face all kinds of different handicaps.

From all present indications a small field will face the flag in the Suburban, but there is no chance of the race looking interesting. Every one will want to see how Henry of Navarre can handle his field with 120 pounds on his back, conceding Clifford four pounds and other horses varying amounts.